

November 2nd, 2018/24th of Cheshvan, 5779

Dear chevreh,

It's hard to take in how much has happened this past week from last Shabbat until now. The murder of eleven Jewish people in Pittsburgh has brought out many different aspects of us: grief, fear, anger, resolve, caring, isolating, sharing and more.

We have an opportunity to come together as a community over Shabbat this evening at 6:15 for dairy/veggie potluck and 7:00 pm for services, as well as 9:00 am tomorrow morning for Tot Shabbat and 10:15 am for Shabbat Zimra.

Additionally, this Sunday evening we will meet at Beth El in Yardley between 6:00 and 8:00 pm to work on next steps together.

What has been heartening is how many people have reached out to me and our Shul. All of our local Christian clergy have reached out, neighbors have reached out, brought flowers, let us know that we are not alone. We are grateful to Chief Cummings and New Hope officers who have been helping us through this time with their presence. I have much appreciation for our Security Committee who met right away and helped prioritize our needs and acted on them. We are a wonderful, caring community. We are always learning how best to take care of ourselves and others around us. I am hopeful that we will be partnering with many other people in local religious organizations and social justice and peace groups to help support each other and keep building the world we want to live in. *Olam Chesed Yibaneh....* We will build this world from love.

Shabbat shalom – let us find joy and solace on this day, perhaps take a break from news, breathe in the beauty of the changing leaves around us, and find healing amidst all the difficulties.

Rabbi Diana